



Laketon Bethel Church

July 21, 2024

Dr. Sherwin Brantsen

# Sherwin's Ten Reasons for Going to Church Every Sunday

## 1. Renew

Everyone goes through times where enthusiasm for life melts away. We all have times where our faith diminishes. Worship on Sunday renews faith and energizes attitudes for all of life.

## 2. Laugh

Yes. We laugh. Humor is a valuable part of worship. Most of it is unplanned. Sherwin's brother told him years ago that: "People aren't laughing at you because you're funny, they are laughing because you are so stupid..."

## 3. Pray

Face it. You don't pray much. Church services remind you of the importance of prayer. They jump start your prayer life. You learn more about prayer. When your family is with you, they see you praying and that is an example that changes lives.

## 4. Sing

Songs of faith can move mountains of despair. You probably won't like all the songs. But some of them will change your life.

## 5. Help

You will often find ways to help in your community. When you help, it reduces inherent narcissism. You think less of yourself and more of others. You become more grateful for what you have. You become a better person and a happier one.

## 6. Give

Yes. Put in some money. Do something with your cash for God instead of for yourself. Don't expect anything back and you will be surprised at how blessed you are. We all waste money. Here you have an opportunity to do something positive with it.

## 7. Meet

Connect with other people. Laketon Bethel accepts everyone, including you. Many friendships are made on a regular basis. We have great coffee and cookies, which help in all sorts of discussions.

## 8. Learn

The guy up front is trained and experienced and often knows what he is talking about. You will learn something every Sunday.

## 9. Grow

When you put what you learn into practice, you will find positive changes in your life. You will have unstoppable growth in ways you don't always expect.

## 10. Jesus

The church exists because of Jesus. When you participate in it regularly, he is pleased. One day you will meet him face-to-face. If you regularly connect with him through weekly worship services, that meeting will be happy.

## **Order of Worship-9:00am**

Gathering Song

“God Is In Control”

Call to Worship

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“The Gift of Love”

“I Then Shall Live”

Crosstalk - “The Shirt Off Your Back”

Offering

“God’s Sweet Love”

Benediction

“Make Me a Blessing”



## **Order of Worship-11:00am**

Gathering Song

“House of the Lord”

Call to Worship

“Praise”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Your Grace Finds Me”

“This Is Amazing Grace”

Crosstalk - “The Shirt Off Your Back”

Offering

“Show Me Your Glory”

Benediction

“God Be With You”

# Announcements

**Membership Class** The Membership Class will be held on July 21<sup>st</sup> following the Second Service. We meet in the Parlor and a pizza lunch is provided. If interested, please sign up on the sheets located in the entryway.

## Service Opportunities

**Nursery Help** We are in need of volunteers for first and second service Nursery. If interested, see Sally Hendrixon or call the office at 744-1749.

## Volunteers

**1<sup>st</sup> Service Coffee Server:** Sally Hendrixon

**2<sup>nd</sup> Service Coffee Server:** Kelly & Colby Beckstrom

**1<sup>st</sup> Service Nursery:** Joann Petroski

**2<sup>nd</sup> Service Nursery:** Sally Hendrixon & Cyndi Bingaman



"This is the day that the  
**LORD**  
has made; let us rejoice  
and be glad in it."

Psalm 118.24



## Children & Youth News



### *LBC Children's Church*

All kids in grades Prek-Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> are welcome to join our Children's Church during the second service at 11:00. We have lots of fun learning about the love of Jesus. If you have any questions, please see Jackie Ritsema or Mia Fick.

### *Laketon Bethel Youth Group*



Youth Group will not have meetings over the summer. We will start back up in September. We will have a camping trip and a day at Michigan's Adventure over summer break. Information on this will be in the bulletin and on the Facebook page. Enjoy summer break!

# Vacation Bible School

"Come make tracks" at our Laketon Bethel Kids night! We are changing our VBS program to accommodate families and hopefully have more participants. Instead we will have *Laketon Bethel Kids Night* throughout the summer."

You can preregister now at the children's check-in station or online at [laketonbethel.org](http://laketonbethel.org).

Our VBS begins this Tuesday and hope to see many kiddos come for a fun time

## Date

July 23<sup>rd</sup>

## Time

6pm-8pm

Dinner provided from 6pm-6:20pm

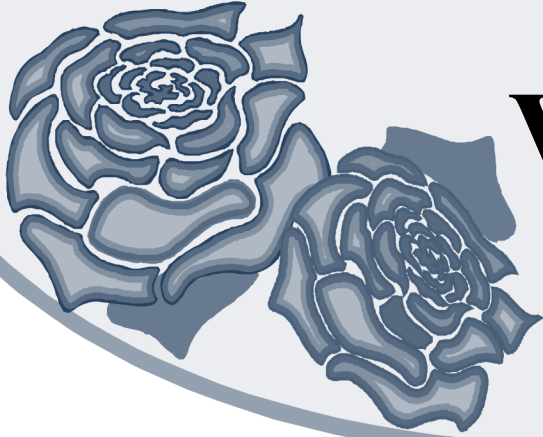
Ages Preschool - Fifth Grades

Call Mia for any questions at (231) 720-8506.



## **Special Senior of the Week:**

*Please show your support by signing the cards located  
on the table in the entryway.*



# **Leona Vanderberg**

*Please remember in prayer our friends who are  
battling long-term illnesses:*

*Donald Bayne*

*Jana Belladone*

*Betty Bonneville*

*Larry Budreau*

*Patti Buurma*

*Craig Carlson*

*Amanda Cihak*

*Larry Cone*

*Amy Fredericks*

*Jacob Geers*

*Bob Hanson*

*Scott Hladki*

*Sally Legard*

*Avery Lynn*

*J.T. Maskell*

*Tom McKee Sr.*

*Patti Mercer*

*Paul Ortquist*

*Lynn Pluger*

*Shirly Pummell*

*Aaron Rop*

*Gary Samples*

*Joe Shavalier*

*Larry Shavaler*

*Ida Shealy*

*Sandy Streeter*

*Kathy Tabor*

*Inga Weavers*

*Marv Wegner*

---

# LUKE 6

---

<sup>26</sup> “There’s trouble ahead when you live only for the approval of others, saying what flatters them, doing what indulges them. Popularity contests are not truth contests—look how many scoundrel preachers were approved by your ancestors! Your task is to be true, not popular.

<sup>27-30</sup> “To you who are ready for the truth, I say this: Love your enemies. Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst. When someone gives you a hard time, respond with the supple moves of prayer for that person. If someone slaps you in the face, stand there and take it. If someone grabs your shirt, giftwrap your best coat and make a present of it. If someone takes unfair advantage of you, use the occasion to practice the servant life. No more payback. Live generously.

<sup>31-34</sup> “Here is a simple rule of thumb for behavior: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you; then grab the initiative and do it for *them*! If you only love the lovable, do you expect a pat on the back? Run-of-the-mill sinners do that. If you only help those who help you, do you expect a medal? Garden-variety sinners do that. If you only give for what you hope to get out of it, do you think that’s charity? The stingiest of pawnbrokers does that.

<sup>35</sup> “Love your enemies! Do good to them. Lend to them without expecting to be repaid. Then your reward from heaven will be very great, and you will truly be acting as children of the Most High, for he is kind to those who are unthankful and wicked. <sup>36</sup> You must be compassionate, just as your Father is compassionate.

<sup>37-38</sup> “Don’t pick on people, jump on their failures, criticize their faults—unless, of course, you want the same treatment. Don’t condemn those who are down; that hardness can boomerang. Be easy on people; you’ll find life a lot easier. Give away your life; you’ll find life given back, but not merely given back—given back with bonus and blessing. Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity.”



# *Deep Sheet*

*[a place for your notes]*

What is one thing you could do to improve Laketon Bethel?

“There is always a better way to do things.” Do you think this statement is true?

Do you believe that we are all self-serving?

What can we do about it?

***Other notes:***

## **July Weekly Bible Readings**

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
21	Su	Acts 11	<input type="checkbox"/>		Deuteronomy 4	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Mo	Acts 12	<input type="checkbox"/>		Deuteronomy 5	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Tu	Acts 13	<input type="checkbox"/>		Deuteronomy 6	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	We	Acts 14	<input type="checkbox"/>		Deuteronomy 7	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	Th	Acts 15	<input type="checkbox"/>		Deuteronomy 8	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	Fr	Acts 16	<input type="checkbox"/>		Deuteronomy 9	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	Sa	Acts 17	<input type="checkbox"/>		Deuteronomy 10	<input type="checkbox"/>
28	Su	Acts 18	<input type="checkbox"/>		Deuteronomy 11	<input type="checkbox"/>

# **LAKETON BETHEL REFORMED CHURCH**

*1568 W. Giles Rd. Muskegon, Mi. 49445*

*Ph. #744-1749 Fax #744-2848*

*Website address: [laketonbethel.org](http://laketonbethel.org) & e-mail: [lbrcoffice@gmail.com](mailto:lbrcoffice@gmail.com)*

*Office hours: 8:30 am – 11:30 am: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday*

**Pastor** – Dr. Sherwin Brantsen ([drbrantsen@gmail.com](mailto:drbrantsen@gmail.com))

**Director of Operations** – Gary Gifford ([garygifford4@gmail.com](mailto:garygifford4@gmail.com))

## **THE PURPOSE OF LAKETON BETHEL:**

*“To trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love.”*

## **Laketon Bethel’s Core Values:**

### **A. ACCEPTANCE:**

Everyone, regardless of who they are, what they have done, or what they are doing, will be accepted here. Laketon Bethel will be a safe place to explore your relationship with Jesus.

### **B. BIBLE:**

The teachings of Jesus, contained in the Bible, are the final authority for faith and practice. We will study these teachings with open minds and the best scholarship available.

### **C. CONNECTION:**

We invite people to connect with Jesus and with each other in all that we do.

## **OUR CONSISTORY**

### **Elders**

Joel Ortquist, Dave DeBoer, Jeff Hooker,  
Mike Lyons, Steve Mussman, Paula Scott-  
Stewart, Donna Spytma, Heather Wilke

### **Deacons**

Brent Ackerman, Kristie Hall, Kathy Forrester,  
Jill Mouw, Doug Lubbers, Kris Meyers,  
Jerry Vos, Diana Wagbo